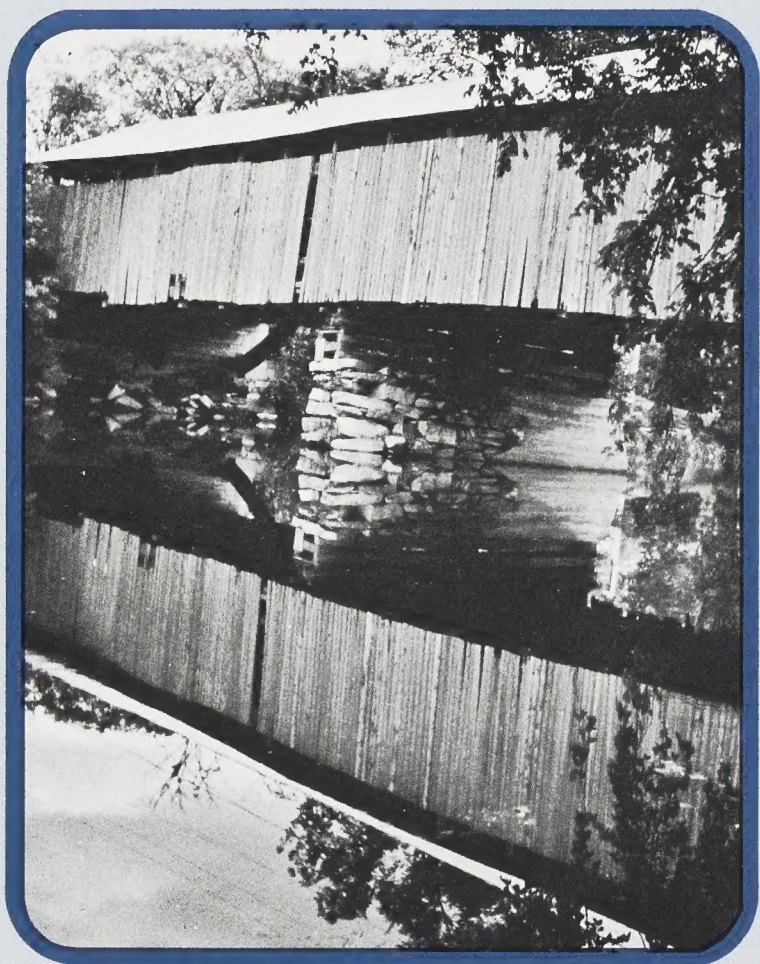


MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

Bread Loaf Writers' Conference



MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE BULLETIN • APRIL, 1959
MIDDLEBURY • VERMONT

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE BULLETIN

Volume LIV

April 1959

Number 3

The MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE BULLETIN is published by Middlebury College eight times a year in January, February, March, April, May, August, October and November at the Publications Office, Old Chapel, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont. Second Class postage paid at Middlebury, Vermont.

Photography Credits: Cover—Ann White; Mr. Ellison—Gordon Parks; Mr. Frost, Mr. Wilbur—David Rhineland; Mr. Raney—Marcus Blechman; Mr. Roethke—James Sneddon.

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STEPHEN A. FREEMAN, Vice-President of Middlebury College
and Director of the Language Schools

JOHN CIARDI, Director of the Writers' Conference

PAUL M. CUBETA, Assistant Director of the Writers' Conference

MRS. BARBARA FILAN, Secretary of the Language Schools

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

Writers' Conference at Bread Loaf

August 12–August 26, 1959

THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION

BREAD LOAF: A THIRD OF A CENTURY

This year, as Bread Loaf completes its first third of a century, all of us who identify with what we call The Conference and The Mountain are aware that what started here in 1926 has become an important part of the American literary scene. This summer at least fifty and probably as many as sixty writers' conferences will meet across the country, and all of them are children or grandchildren of Bread Loaf.

We are proud of being the Parent Conference, but we take our parenthood as cause for a sense of responsibility rather than one of complacency. The open secret of Bread Loaf's vitality has always been in the quality of the people it has been able to attract. Founded by John Farrar with the close and continuing cooperation of Robert Frost, Bread Loaf has won the loyalties of many distinguished writers. Among the most constant of those have been Theodore Morrison, Bernard DeVoto, Edith Mirrielies, Fletcher Pratt, and William Sloane. These good writers and good teachers have all put in from five to twenty years of continuous attendance at Bread Loaf. They have been the core, and they have succeeded over the years in evolving a method of discussion uniquely apt to the purposes of an intensive two-week session.

Three or four of them have always been retained from year to year, while as many as ten or twelve new Staff Members have been added each

year. Thus, as new talent arrives on The Mountain, the old hands are there to help shape the course of the discussion. Firm in its tradition and constantly tested by new arrivals, The Bread Loaf Method has never failed to send the Conference membership back home with a quickened sense of the writing process.

As if to celebrate its third of a century, the Bread Loaf Conference this year will be the largest ever. Approximately one hundred and eighty writers, teachers, and interested readers will ride up The Mountain in August. Some will be old friends, and for them there is always the happy welcome of meeting again in a happy place. Most, however, will be coming to Bread Loaf for the first time. We especially envy them, remembering our own first time on The Mountain and all that it has meant since. To all a happy welcome.

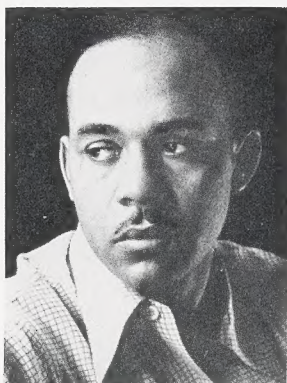
John Ciardi



View from the Bread Loaf Inn.

THE STAFF

FICTION



Ralph Ellison, novelist, is the author of *Invisible Man*, which won the 1953 National Book Award in Fiction. From 1955 to 1957 he was in Rome on a fellowship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. He has written short stories, reviews and articles for *Horizon*, *The Reporter*, *Antioch Review*, and *The Saturday Review*. Mr. Ellison has lectured at the Salzburg Seminar and at Harvard, Princeton, Bennington, Columbia, and Vassar. At present he is a visiting lecturer at Bard College.

Richard Gehman, free-lance writer and editor, has published approximately six hundred magazine articles in the last twenty years and is a contributing editor at *Cosmopolitan*. He has written six books, which include *How To Write and Sell Magazine Articles*, *Murder in Paradise*, and *Slander of Witches*, edited a seventh, *Eddie Condon's Treasury of Jazz*, and has his eighth, *Jury Is Still Out*, appearing this year. He taught at New York University between 1947 and 1950.



Nancy Hale, short story writer and novelist, winner of the O. Henry short story prize, is a frequent contributor to the *New Yorker*. She has written several hundred short stories and eight novels, which include *The Prodigal Women*, *The Empress's Ring*, *The Sign of Jonah*, and *Heaven and Hardpan Farm*. Last year appeared *A New England Girlhood*, a group of *New Yorker* pieces about her childhood.

John Frederick Nims, poet and Professor of English at the University of Notre Dame, is this year Visiting Professor of American Studies at the University of Madrid. A former editor of *Poetry*, he has written for such magazines as *Accent*, *Sewanee Review*, *Botteghe Oscure* and *Poetry*. His collected volumes of poems are *The Iron Pastoral* and *A Fountain in Kentucky*. He has translated Euripedes' *Andromache* and the *Poems of St. John of the Cross*.



William Raney, editor, was the former editor-in-chief at Henry Holt and Company and at E.P. Dutton and Company. He has been the editor of the Trade Department at McGraw-Hill Book Company and is now editor at Rinehart and Company.

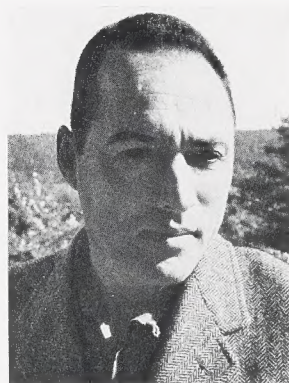
Theodore Roethke, poet, teacher, and twice a Guggenheim Fellow, was awarded the 1958 Bollingen Prize in Poetry and the 1959 National Book Award in Poetry for his latest volume of poems, *Words for the Wind*, which will appear in English, Italian, and German editions. Professor of English at the University of Washington, Mr. Roethke has also taught at Lafayette College, Pennsylvania State University, and Bennington College and was a Fulbright Lecturer in Italy in 1955. He is a member of the National Institute of Arts and Letters. His other volumes of poetry are *Open House*, *The Lost Son and Other Poems*, *Praise to the End!* and *The Waking: Poems 1933-1953*, which won the 1953 Pulitzer Prize in Poetry.





William Sloane, editor and novelist, is the author of *To Walk the Night*, *The Edge of Running Water*, and *Stories for Tomorrow*. The former president of William Sloane Associates, he is Director of the Rutgers University Press.

Walter Magnes Teller, writer and Guggenheim Foundation Fellow, is the author of *The Farm Primer*, *Island Summer*, *The Search for Captain Slocum* and *The Voyages of Joshua Slocum*. He conducts a nonfiction writing course at the New School.



Hollis Summers, novelist, poet, and short story writer, is Professor of English at the University of Kentucky. His novels include *City Limit*, *Brighten the Corner*, and *The Weather of February*. His first volume of poetry, *The Walks Near Athens*, appears this year. His poetry and short stories have been published in such magazines as *Accent*, *The Paris Review*, *The Sewanee Review*, *Perspective*, *Poetry* and *The Saturday Review*. Mr. Summers has also taught at Georgetown College and Ohio University.

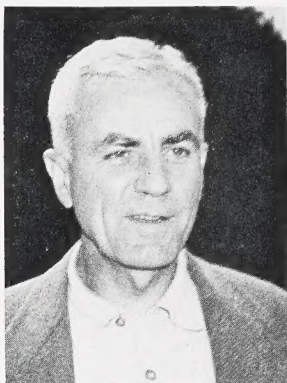
JUVENILE LITERATURE

Eunice Blake is the Editor of Children's Books at J. B. Lippincott Company. Previously an editor at Thomas Nelson and Sons, the Macmillan Company, and Oxford University Press, Miss Blake was instrumental in founding The Children's Book Council, which serves as the trade association of juvenile book publishers in this country. A frequent lecturer on juvenile literature, she has led discussion groups at the Association for Childhood Education International, the University of Connecticut, and the University of Chicago.



SPECIAL LECTURERS

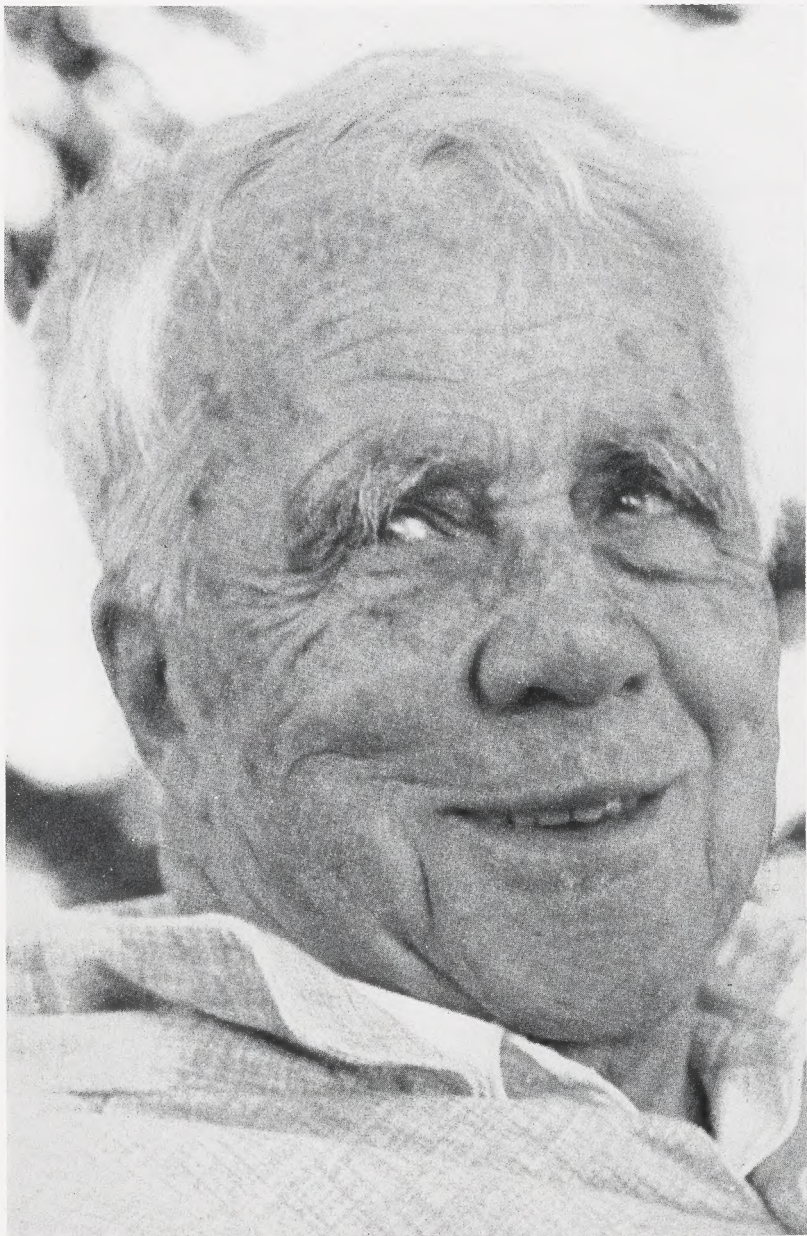
Robert Frost, America's foremost poet.



Theodore Morrison, novelist, poet, and teacher, is a Lecturer on English at Harvard University and for twenty-five years was Director of the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference. His volumes of poems include *The Devious Way* and *The Dream of Alcestis*. He is the editor and translator of the *Portable Chaucer* and the author of *The Stones of the House* and *To Make a World*.

William Hazlett Upson, short story writer and lecturer, has written over one hundred Alexander Botts stories for the *Saturday Evening Post*. Besides articles for such magazines as *Colliers*, the *Ford Times*, and the *Georgia Review*, he has written *Earthworms through the Ages*; *Hello, Mr. Henderson*; and *No Rest for Botts*.





Robert Frost



Richard Wilbur, poet and teacher, was a former Guggenheim Fellow and a former Prix de Rome Fellow at the American Academy of Arts and Letters. Mr. Wilbur, who is a member of the National Institute of Arts and Letters, is Professor of English at Wesleyan University. His latest volume of poems, *Things of This World*, was awarded the 1957 National Book Award in Poetry and the 1957 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry. Besides his other volumes of poetry, *The Beautiful Changes*, and *Ceremony*, and *Other Poems*, Mr. Wilbur has written a verse translation of Molière's *Misanthrope* and has provided the lyrics for the musical *Candide*.

ADMINISTRATION

John Ciardi, Director of the Conference, poet, critic, and anthologist, is Professor of English at Rutgers University and Poetry Editor of the *Saturday Review*. He is the editor of *Mid-Century American Poets* and the translator of Dante's *Inferno*. A member of the National Institute of Arts and Letters, Mr. Ciardi is President of the College English Association. His volumes of poetry include *Other Skies*, *Live Another Day*, *From Time to Time*, *As If*, and *I Marry You*. His first volume of children's verse, *The Reason for the Pelican*, will be published in 1959 as will a critical text *How Does a Poem Mean?*



Paul M. Cubeta, Assistant Director of the Conference, is an Assistant Professor of English at Middlebury College. He was a former Carnegie Fellow in General Education at Harvard University and is the editor of *Modern Drama for Analysis*.



Mr. Frost discusses a point with Mr. Ciardi and other Bread Loafers.

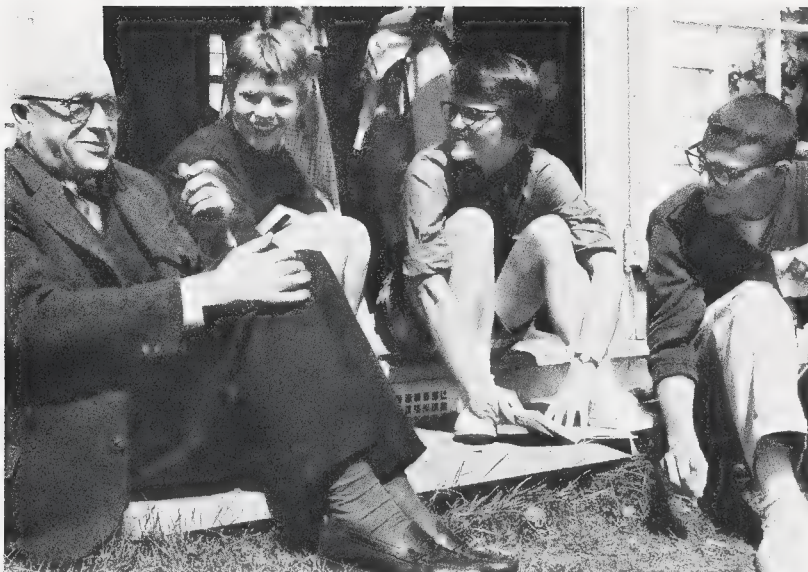
THE HISTORY OF BREAD LOAF

Bread Loaf Inn was opened as a hotel in the 1860's by Joseph Battell, who bred Morgan horses, kept the Morgan stallion register, and believed in the preservation of forests. He acquired over thirty thousand acres of forest lands and left this property, with the Inn, to Middlebury College in 1915. Most of the forest is now national park; the Inn is no longer a public hotel, but the living quarters of two of the Middlebury College Summer Schools, the Bread Loaf School of English in the early summer and the Writers' Conference during the last two weeks of August. Modern improvements and the addition of several new buildings have enhanced the charm and conveniences of the old original Inn and the surrounding cottages.

The Conference, the first of its kind in the country, began in 1926 under the direction of John Farrar, then editor of the *Bookman*, who was succeeded in 1929 by Robert M. Gay. Theodore Morrison became Director in 1932, and under his leadership the Conference gained much of the prestige which it commands today. In 1955 John Ciardi took over as Director. A major force in creating and sustaining Bread Loaf has been







Mr. McCord chats with Julie Bridgman, Barbara Dudley, and Norman Fruchter.

Robert Frost, who has been with the Conference from the beginning and continues to extend its dimension of height and depth today.

LIFE AT BREAD LOAF

Schedule of Lectures There are three morning sessions and two afternoon sessions every weekday during the Conference. During the first week, these sessions consist of lectures by the various staff members. A typical day's schedule might read: 9:00 A.M., The Novel; 10:15 A.M., The Short Story; 11:30 A.M., Non-Fiction; 2:00 P.M., Poetry; 3:15 P.M., Juvenile Writing. The same sort of schedule applies during the second week, but the sessions then become workshops rather than lectures and are primarily devoted to criticism, in which the whole group participates, of manuscripts submitted by Contributors.

There are, additionally, evening lectures every night of the Conference, Sundays included. In these evening lectures, Staff Members and Guest Lecturers speak on whatever is closest to their hearts as human beings who write.

No two lectures are scheduled for the same time. It has been said that

it is theoretically possible for a resolute Conference member with the stamina of a water buffalo to sit through sixty-nine lectures plus a final banquet plus a number of pleasant impromptus. No one at Bread Loaf recommends such a marathon. One is better advised to take in all the lectures and workshops in his own category and to sample the others while allowing himself an occasional break for coffee at The Barn or for a slow stroll through the scenery.

Accommodations No rooms will be ready for occupancy until Wednesday morning, August 12.

The number of applications for Bread Loaf will outstrip the housing facilities. When the last room has been assigned, no further applications can be considered. Those who seriously intend to come to Bread Loaf, and above all those who want special room assignments, would be well advised to apply as soon as possible. Anyone making application should be prepared to accept a double room as the single rooms are all chosen quite early. It is assumed that members will live on campus. The Secretary will make every effort to assure a satisfactory assignment.

A doctor and a resident nurse will be in attendance, and the well-equipped Porter Hospital at Middlebury is within easy reach.

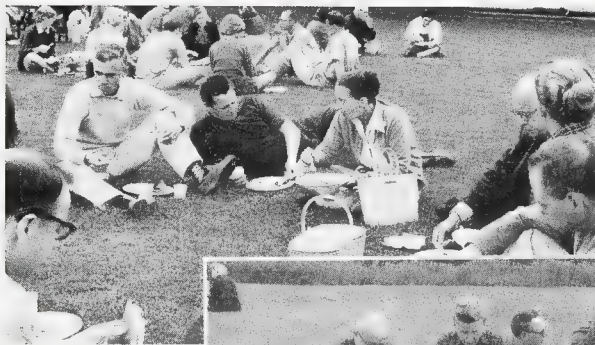
Meals Meals are served at stated hours in the dining room of the Inn, which is operated and staffed by Middlebury College under the supervision of an expert and trained dietitian. No individual provision can be made in the dining hall for persons who require special diets.

Snack Bar Late breakfasts and afternoon and evening snacks may be obtained for a small charge. The snack bar offers short-order cooking as well as ice cream, sandwiches, hot and cold drinks.

Waiters A few positions are open for those desiring to earn most of their expenses by waiting on table. The compensation for Contributors is board, room, and partial tuition; for Auditors, board, room, and tuition. Application blanks may be obtained by writing to the Secretary of the Language Schools.

Recreation For those who are keen about outdoor life, the Conference is ideally located at the edge of Battell Forest. A junction with the Long Trail—"a footpath in the wilderness"—which winds along the summit of the Green Mountains and extends from southern Vermont to the Canadian border, is a short hike from Bread Loaf.

Softball playing fields, tennis courts, and croquet courts are available. There is also a golf course in Middlebury. Saddle horses are usually pro-



Picnic on the Bread Loaf Lawn.



Tennis at Bread Loaf.

curable at reasonable rates. Bathing beaches at Lake Dunmore, one of the most attractive of Vermont lakes, are twelve miles from the Conference. There is also swimming in the mountain streams at or immediately about Bread Loaf, and this summer for the first time there will be an outdoor swimming pool on campus.

CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

Contributors Those who wish to bring manuscripts to Bread Loaf for criticism by the staff should apply for admission as Contributors. Contributors are asked to submit, at the time of application, examples of the kind of writing of which they will later expect criticism at Bread Loaf. In general it is expected that Contributors will submit manuscripts in only *one* field. Work in progress or completed manuscripts may be presented for criticism. The Conference is unable to accept manuscripts of plays or television scripts. The Director reserves the right to limit the amount of material submitted by any Contributor.

Auditors Those who do not wish to submit manuscripts should apply for admission as Auditors. Auditors may attend all lectures and partici-



THE STAFF, 1958

REAR: William Rancy, Daniel Curley, William Sloane, John Frederick Nims, David McCord, Berton Rouché, Walter Magnes Teller, Paul Cubeta.
FRONT: Eunice Blake, Nancy Hale, Robert Frost, Léonie Adams, Avis DeVoto, John Ciardi.

pate in all open discussions. They may not submit manuscripts for staff criticism; otherwise their privileges are in no way different from those of Contributors.

ADMISSION

Both Contributors and Auditors are subject to selection. The basis of admission for Contributors will be the examples of their work they submit with their applications. First choice will be given to those who, in the judgment of a preliminary reader, show professional promise. But inexperienced or beginning writers will be admitted if the preliminary reader considers that they are likely to profit by the criticism of the staff. The basis of admission for Auditors will be any evidence the applicant offers of serious literary interest, such as published work or active concern with writing or teaching.

Application Procedure 1. Write for an application blank to the Secretary, Language Schools Office, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont.

2. Return the filled-out application to Paul M. Cubeta, Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont.

3. If you desire admission as a Contributor, forward to Mr. Cubeta examples of your published or unpublished work *at the same time that you return your application blank*. As much material may be submitted as you feel is necessary to represent fairly the range and quality of your work.

All manuscripts must be clearly typewritten and will be returned only if accompanied by a self-addressed envelope and full postage or clear directions for return by express collect. A full and clear address should be written on all manuscripts as well as on all letters. Some time may pass before manuscripts can be returned, and it will therefore be an advantage to keep copies. The Conference assumes no responsibility for manuscripts lost in the mails or otherwise. All possible care will be taken to prevent such loss.

4. If you desire admission as an Auditor, return your application, without manuscript, to Mr. Cubeta.

Applications are accepted only from people who intend to be present for the whole session. No reduction of rates is offered for part-time attendance.

The restrictions of space at Bread Loaf, both in classrooms and living-

quarters, make it impossible to accommodate friends or relatives of members, unless they too are regularly enrolled members.

Contributors should bring manuscripts in their hand luggage so that they may be submitted to the Director on registration day. No manuscripts can be accepted after the second day of the Conference.

Fees The administration reserves the right to make any changes without notice in courses, staff, living arrangements, etc. The all-inclusive fees for tuition, board, and room are as follows:

	Contributors	Auditors
Tuition	\$107	\$ 82
Board	\$ 53	\$ 53
Room	\$ 20-\$ 65	\$ 20-\$ 65
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$180-\$225	\$155-\$200

A nonrefundable registration fee of \$20 will be called for by the Secretary of the Language Schools at the time the applicant is notified that he has been accepted for membership. Rooms will be assigned only to those whose applications have been accepted and who have paid the registration fee. This fee will be credited against the applicant's total charges. *Please make all checks payable to Middlebury College.*

SCHOLARSHIPS

As this bulletin goes to press, we are especially happy to announce that, through the generosity of anonymous friends of Bread Loaf, a Third of a Century Fund has been established to provide scholarship assistance, especially to younger writers. The funds presently available are limited, and the general intent of the Fund is that scholarship aid will cover part rather than all of the Conference fees, though in cases of special merit and need full scholarships may be provided.

Scholarship application forms may be secured from the Secretary, Language Schools Office, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont. All applicants for scholarship aid should submit manuscripts and apply for admission as Contributors to Paul M. Cubeta, Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont. The closing date for scholarship applications is June 15. Each candidate will be considered separately on the basis of the submitted manuscript and of his financial need. Undergraduates are eligible.

All of us at Bread Loaf are moved to offer our most grateful thanks to



THE FELLOWS, 1958

REAR: Edward Tripp, John Lydenberg, John Farris, Robert Sward.

FRONT: John H. Randall, III, Dan Jaffe, Joan Williams, Anthony Ostroff, Bernard Asbell.

those good friends who have added this resource to the Conference. We have no doubt but that this Scholarship Fund will serve over the years to aim many a good talent on the road it must go.

FELLOWSHIPS

The Conference offers a limited number of fellowships, paying all regular charges at Bread Loaf, but not traveling expenses. A committee of the Conference staff awards the fellowships, guided by the following policies:

1. Personal applications are not accepted, and undergraduates are not eligible.
2. To be considered for a fellowship, each candidate must be *nominated* by a magazine editor, publisher, literary agent, well-known writer, or college teacher. Nomination may be made informally in a letter to Paul M. Cubeta, Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont.
3. Candidates for fellowships are assumed, except in extraordinary

cases, to have published a book or to have had a book manuscript accepted for publication.

4. All nominations should be in the Assistant Director's hands by April 15. Supporting manuscripts or published work should reach him by May 1.

THE ROBERT FROST FELLOWSHIP IN POETRY

This annual Fellowship in Poetry is sponsored by Henry Holt and Company, original publishers of Mr. Frost's poetry. The Fellowship is offered for five consecutive years beginning in 1956 and will cover full tuition, room, and board for the period of the Writers' Conference. The Fellowship is awarded annually to a poet of genuine promise to be selected jointly by the Bread Loaf staff and Henry Holt and Company.

THE BERNARD DE VOTO FELLOWSHIP IN PROSE

Awarded by the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference in memory of the late Bernard De Voto, long a member of the Conference staff, the fellowship will be offered in 1959 to a writer of promise in the field of nonfiction.

THE FUNK AND WAGNALLS FELLOWSHIP IN PROSE

This fellowship, awarded annually by Funk and Wagnalls Company, provides full tuition, board, and room for an outstanding writer in fiction or nonfiction.

THE FLETCHER PRATT MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP IN PROSE

Awarded by W. W. Norton and Company, Curtis Brown, Ltd., and friends of the late Fletcher Pratt, in memory of his long service and shaping influence at Bread Loaf, this fellowship will pay all Conference expenses to a writer of merit in fiction or nonfiction.

THE WEEKLY READER CHILDREN'S BOOK CLUB FELLOWSHIP IN JUVENILE LITERATURE

The Bread Loaf Writers' Conference is pleased to announce the continuation for a third year of a fellowship in juvenile literature, made possible through the generosity of the *Weekly Reader* Children's Book Club. The fellowship will provide full tuition, board, and room to an outstanding writer in the field of juvenile literature.

Transportation Middlebury is halfway between Burlington and Rutland, Vermont. Bread Loaf is eleven miles from Middlebury up among the Green Mountains. Members not arriving by automobile will go via the New York Central to Albany, New York; or via the Boston and Maine to Bellows Falls, Vermont; or via the Vermont Central to Essex Junction (Burlington); and make bus connections on the Vermont Transit Lines to Middlebury. There is no railroad passenger service direct to Middlebury. Baggage should be sent by railway express. Bus schedules will be supplied upon request. There are planes to Rutland and Burlington from Boston via Northeast Airlines and from New York via Eastern Airlines.

